DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0061]

[Docket 2012-0076; Sequence 9]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Submission for OMB Review;
Transportation Requirements

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services

Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space

Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Regulatory Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a previously approved information collection requirement concerning Transportation Requirements. A notice was published in the <a href="#Federal Register">Federal Register</a> at 77 FR 24713, on April 25, 2012. One respondent submitted comments.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary; whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of

information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before [Insert date 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.]

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by Information Collection 9000-0061, Transportation Requirements, by any of the following methods:

- Regulations.gov: <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>.

  Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by inputting the OMB Control number. Select the link "Submit a Comment" that corresponds with "Information Collection 9000-0061, Transportation Requirements". Follow the instructions provided at the "Submit a Comment" screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and "Information Collection 9000-0061, Transportation Requirements" on your attached document.
  - Fax: 202-501-4067.
  - Mail: General Services Administration, Regulatory

    Secretariat (MVCB), 1275 First Street, NE, Washington, DC

    20417. ATTN: Hada Flowers/IC 9000-0061, Transportation

    Requirements.

<u>Instructions</u>: Please submit comments only and cite Information Collection 9000-0061, Transportation Requirements, in all correspondence related to this collection. All comments received

will be posted without change to <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Curtis E. Glover, Sr.,

Procurement Analyst, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy,

GSA (202) 501-1448 or via email @ curtis.glover@gsa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## I. Purpose

FAR Part 47 contains policies and procedures for applying transportation and traffic management considerations in the acquisition of supplies. The FAR part also contains policies and procedures when acquiring transportation or transportation-related services. Generally, contracts involving transportation require information regarding the nature of the supplies, method of shipment, place and time of shipment, applicable charges, marking of shipments, shipping documents and other related items. Contractors are required to provide the information in accordance with the following FAR Part 47 clauses: 52.247-29 through 52.247-44, 52.247-48, 52.247-52, and 52.247-64. The information is used to ensure that: (1) acquisitions are made on the basis most advantageous to the Government and; (2) supplies arrive in good order and condition, and on time at the required place.

## II. Analysis of Public Comments

One respondent submitted public comments on the extension of the previously approved information collection. The analysis of the public comments is summarized as follows:

Comment: The respondent commented that the extension of the information collection would violate the fundamental purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act because of the burden it puts on the entity submitting the information and the agency collecting the information.

Response: In accordance with the Paperwork Required Act (PRA), agencies can request an OMB approval of an existing information collection. The PRA requires that agencies use the Federal Register notice and comment process, to extend the OMB's approval, at least every three years. This extension, to a previously approved information collection, pertains to FAR Part 47, and the clauses 52.247-29 through 52.247-44, 52.247-48, 52.247-52, and 52.247-64. The purpose of this part is to (1) apply transportation and traffic management considerations in the acquisition of supplies, and (2) to acquire transportation or transportation-related services by contract methods other than bills of lading, transportation requests, transportation warrants, and similar transportation forms. The Government must ensure that instructions to contractors result in the most efficient and economical use of transportation services and equipment. These clauses are mandatory depending on the method of transportation used, and they provide the Government the

assurance that it will receive the supplies in the agreed condition, and at the proper destination. Not granting this extension would consequently eliminate the Government's ability to receive supplies in good order and condition, as well as receive the supplies in a timely manner.

Comment: The respondent commented that the agency did not accurately estimate the public burden challenging that the agency's methodology for calculating it is insufficient and inadequate and does not reflect the total burden. For this reason, the respondent provided that the agency should reassess the estimated total burden hours and revise the estimate upwards to be more accurate, as was done in FAR Case 2007-006. The same respondent also provided that the burden of compliance with the information collection requirement greatly exceeds the agency's estimate and outweighs any potential utility of the extension.

Response: Serious consideration is given, during the open comment period, to all comments received and adjustments are made to the paperwork burden estimate based on reasonable considerations provided by the public. This is evidenced, as the respondent notes, in FAR Case 2007-006 where an adjustment was made from the total preparation hours from three to 60. This change was made considering particularly the hours that would be required for review within the company, prior to release to the Government.

The burden is prepared taking into consideration the necessary criteria in OMB quidance for estimating the paperwork burden put on the entity submitting the information. For example, consideration is given to an entity reviewing instructions; using technology to collect, process, and disclose information; adjusting existing practices to comply with requirements; searching data sources; completing and reviewing the response; and transmitting or disclosing information. The estimated burden hours for a collection are based on an average between the hours that a simple disclosure by a very small business might require and the much higher numbers that might be required for a very complex disclosure by a major corporation. Also, the estimated burden hours should only include projected hours for those actions which a company would not undertake in the normal course of business. Careful consideration went into assessing the estimated burden hours for this collection, and it was determined that an upward adjustment was warranted. At any point, members of the public may submit comments for further consideration, and are encouraged to provide data to support their request for an adjustment.

## III. Annual Reporting Burden

There is no centralized database system that maintains statistics on the information regarding the nature of the supplies, method of shipments, place and time of shipment, applicable charges, marking of shipments, shipping documents, and

other related items; however, based on input from subject matter experts within the Federal Government, an upward adjustment is being made to the estimated annual reporting burden since the notice regarding an extension to this clearance published in the Federal Register at 74 FR 23406 on May 19, 2009. The upward adjustment is due to an estimated increase in the number of responses per respondents from 21.32 to 22, and an increase in the average hours per response from .048 to .05.

Respondents: 65,000.

Responses Per Respondent: 22.

Annual Responses: 1,430,000.

Hours Per Response: .05.

Total Burden Hours: 71,500.

OBTAINING COPIES OF PROPOSALS: Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat Division (MVCB), 1275

First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20417, telephone (202) 501-4755.

Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0061, Transportation

Requirements, in all correspondence.

Dated: September 13, 2012

William Clark,
Acting Director,
Federal Acquisition Policy Division,
Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy,
Office of Acquisition Policy,
Office of Governmentwide Policy.

# [BILLING CODE 6820-EP]

[FR Doc. 2012-23134 Filed 09/18/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 09/19/2012]